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ABSTRACT

This guide for students, who are considering graduate school, offers specific guidelines organized in the form of 10 "steps". The introductory chapter identifies three goals in graduate study: to qualify professionally, to improve career posture, and to provide the satisfaction that higher learning offers. A chapter is given, devoted to each of the following 10 steps: (1) identify yourself as a potential professional making sure you are suited by temperament and aptitude for a particular graduate program; (2) gain an understanding of graduate education and admission procedures; (3) explore graduate program opportunities and the variety of degree offerings; (4) determine your academic qualifications for graduate school; (5) prepare for crucial graduate tests; (6) strengthen your writing skills in preparation for submitting personal statements or essays in the application process; (7) get "real world" experience in a job or internship in the desired field; (8) market your strengths to admissions committees; (9) examine the many ways to finance graduate education; and (10) prepare applications carefully keeping records of all correspondence. A variety of suggestions and a checklist are provided for each of the 10 steps. Appendixes provide brief case histories and sample letters of recommendation. The bibliography cites 59 references. (DB)

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